# UTM's award-winning college newspaper www.thepacer.net

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### Biggest presidential primary in country set March 1

#### Which states will hold primaries on Super Tuesday?

Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont and Virginia will hold primaries for both Democrats and Republicans. Alaska will hold its Republican caucus while American Samoa will hold a caucus for Democrats, Colorado will hold caucuses for both parties.

#### Why is Super Tuesday also being labeled the SEC Primary?

Alabama, Arkansas and Texas decided to join Georgia and Tennessee in holding primaries on Super Tuesday. According to al.com, "the influx of Southern states - all of which have sports teams that compete in the Southeastern Conference - led to the name the 'SEC Primary.'"

#### How many delegates are at stake?

Republicans need 1,237 delegates to win the party's nomination, with 595 of them available on Super Tuesday. Democrats need 2,383 delegates, and 1,004 are available on March 1.

#### Which primaries are left?

Florida, Illinois, North Carolina and Missouri will host primaries on March 15, while New York will vote April 19. California, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico and South Dakota, as well as North Dakota Democrats, will go to the polls on June 7.

#### Local political events

A rally for Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders will be held from 4-6 p.m. today (Thursday, Feb. 25) in Watkins Auditorium. On Friday, Feb. 26, a rally for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton will begin at noon in 125 UC, the meeting room at the back of the UTM cafeteria.

- See which celebrities support which presidential candidates — Graphic, page 10
- Early voting in Tennessee has been heavy, according to the Associated Press. Follow The Pacer's election coverage of Super Tuesday to see how Weakley County and the state voted.

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# **Viewpoints**

#### EDITORIAL -

### Midterms, spring break and your future

It's the time of the semester where students buckle down for midterm exams and reward themselves with the ultimate spring break vacation.

Midterms are almost over, but that doesn't mean it's time to completely stop studying, stop going to classes or stop being productive. Remember that final exams will be here before we know it, so try not to slack off during this period of "rest." Spring break is March 7-13,

so relax and enjoy yourself!

Studying can be tiring, and classes can be tiresome, so take the week to do something fun and/or productive.

Take a spontaneous road trip, visit family and friends from home or pick up a fun hobby or project. Take time to work on bettering yourself and rejuvenate your brain for second half of the semester. With final exams coming up, you'll need that extra brain boost to succeed

and pass your classes. However, please be safe over

the break. It is spring break and sometimes people can have "too much" fun. Binge drinking already affects half of college students across the nation, and the number increases significantly during spring break. Males students tend to drink 18 drinks a day compared to female students who drink 10, according to the American College of Health. 1,825 students on average die each school year from alcohol-related unintentional injuries. We don't

want any students from UTM to be a part of that statistic.

After spring break, be sure to remember that class registration will be March 28 - April 1. Having the right classes to graduate on time is important so keep this in mind over the next few weeks.

We at The Pacer want everyone to enjoy spring break responsibly. Use this time to recharge and get prepared for the last half of the semester.

school students and encourage

Our university has already

seen a decline in enrollment, and

our tuition will probably reflect

that relatively soon. UTM is

not the only university with this

problem either. According to

Inside Higher Ed, institutions

overseen by the Tennessee

Board of Regents are down 8.4

percent in freshman enrollment

while University of Tennessee

campuses are down 4.6 percent.

While state officials are hopeful

that Promise students will

transfer in the future, no one

can really be certain at this

point. And although our own

university doesn't attribute

the drop in enrollment to the

Tennessee Promise, it probably

doesn't help, at least, not in the

short term.

continued academic success."

### thepacer

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#### COLUMNS

### Tennessee gives empty 'promise' to university students

Chance Farmer

Executive Editor

A little over two years ago, Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam unveiled the Tennessee Promise, and it seemed like a dream come true for some.

Designed to be a "last resort" scholarship, the Tennessee Promise will cover what federal pell grants and the Hope scholarship doesn't, but only for two-year community colleges.

This is great for someone who plans to attend a two-year school and then either get a job in the technical field or transfer to a four-year university, but what about the students that are already at universities? Is there going to be something done to help us? Where is the "Promise" money coming from and why should we even care?

The short answer to how the Tennessee Promise helps fouryear university students is: not at all, especially those enrolled right now.

According State to Representative Steve Cohen (D-09), "Tennessee Promise is funded by revenues raided from the lottery, funds intended for students who worked hard to



Photo Credits/Creative Commons

earn the Hope scholarship. The 'free' Tennessee Promise has already resulted in cuts to the Hope scholarship awards. Hope scholarships have been cut from \$4,000 to \$3,500 for freshmen and sophomores and the Aspire Award for students whose family income is \$36,000 or less has been cut from \$3,000 per year to \$2,250. The less affluent Hope scholars are essentially 'paying' \$1,250 per year to support the Promise program. Further, all

future lottery revenue growth will be directed to Promise and this will ensure that the Hope scholarship becomes more of a stipend over time as tuitions rise against a stagnant scholarship."

Cohen also said, "While the lottery has been a tremendous success, it produces only a finite amount of money - not enough to do all things for all people. It produces enough to do what the people voted for it to do: reward and incentivize high

No one is saying it's a bad thing to offer higher education to those who could not usually it. In fact, it's great that our state is the first in the nation to test these waters. However, like most other new systems, it needs refining. There should be a way to offer higher education to all without having to take from those who have already worked so hard to earn their scholarships.

### Governor Haslam's billionaire status may prove to be worthless to Tennesseans

Ashton Priest

Viewpoints Editor

According to Forbes's latest analysis, Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam is the richest elected official in the United States.

His net worth as of Feb. 21, 2016 is at \$2.1 billion thanks to his job as governor and his successful family business, the Pilot Flying J company.

"We're not sure where Forbes got their numbers. We don't discuss his personal finances. Tennesseans are more interested in the work he's doing as governor," said Dave Smith, Haslam spokesman, in an email.

He might be successful in the eyes of higher-income corporate people, but is he in the eyes of Tennesseans across the state?

Political officials usually get the vote when they relate to the citizens. With his new billionaire status, Gov. Haslam may find it hard to connect and get on the levels of the people

The citizens want a guy that's just like them," as in a plainfolk and someone simple. They want to know that the governor

has them in mind when it comes to making diplomatic and informed decisions. They want the governor to be the "man for the people" and relate to the lives of the common man.

They don't want a rich governor that doesn't understand the struggles of the average home life and sits at home sipping on champagne everyday. They don't want a governor that only follows personal interest and corporate schemes. They don't want the value, heart and dedication to the state crumble to the ground.

But honestly, Tennesseans

don't really care about this fact. Gov. Haslam has proved to be competent in his position, placing more emphasis on the state economy and education rather than social issues. If any of us were to sense a hint of anything purely corporate in future ideas for Tennessee, we would be the ones searching for a new governor instead of re-

For now, Dave Smith is right about us only caring for our state versus Gov. Haslam's billionaire status, but who knows what the future may bring for the state of

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> **UTM** Office of Student **Publications**

# Viewpoints

### - COLUMNS ----

### Gender continues to be taxing on women in the United States

Laura Crossett

Co-News Editor

The price of living has suddenly risen. Your shoes, toilet paper, coffee mugs and toothpaste have increased in price by almost 10 percent. It almost feels as if the world is no longer suited towards you.

For roughly half of the world's population, this higher tax is a reality. Products marketed at women, from pink razors to "girly" cocktails to certain scents of deodorant, are priced at an average of seven percent higher solely because of the gender they're intended for, says the Department of Consumer Affairs.

There's often no real difference between the products other than the color of the package. However, the same size 6 pack of white t-shirts would cost more with a picture of a woman wearing it on the front.

This taxation is nothing

new, even if the term "pink tax" may be. As early as 1994, a study of gender-based pricing was observed by the DCA throughout the state of California. During this yearlong study, women spent \$1,375 more than men for the same services.

Already, women in America are expected to strive to a certain physical goal to be deemed acceptable and this pressure alone is expensive enough. From hair products, makeup and basic sanitary products, it is an expensive road to follow society's expectations of appearance. Women already are forced to spend hard - earned time and money on upholding what is considered beauty "standards" in the United States.

If it weren't already difficult to succeed as a woman in the United States, it's hard to live up to our culture's standards of beauty when the system ensures women cannot afford it. Unfortunately, efforts on making legislative changes to alleviate this tax have thus been unsuccessful. This being said, there aren't a lot of ways to avoid the pink tax other than simply purchasing products directed at the male gender. Buying items devoid of pastel colors, butterflies, or an aptitude toward the female body seems, for now, to be the only way around the incredibly sexist gender tax.

### Passing of Supreme Court Justice causes political friction

Hidaja Travtmann

Guest Writer

This month one of the nine U.S. Supreme Court Justices, Antonin Scalia, died. Scalia was appointed by President Reagan and confirmed in 1986. He was a strong conservative in the ranks of the Supreme Court.

Looking at the rest of the Supreme Court, it can be safely said that four judges are conservative and the other four are liberal. Scalia, leaving the rank, opens the possibility to shift the Supreme Court to either side. Supreme Court judges are being nominated by the President and then confirmed by the Senate. In Article 2, Section 2, Clause 2 of the Constitution, known as the Appointment Clause it says that "he [the President] shall appoint Judges of the Supreme Court."

President Obama is in his

last year of office, and a lot of Americans like to blame anything bad happening to the global economy, relations between foreign countries and weather changes on him. This counts especially for the Republican Party and their members. Obama already appointed two Supreme Court Justices, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, both of whom are considered liberal. Kagan was appointed into office in 2010 and is still unproven, but

most likely will lean liberal.

Republicans fear that Obama will appoint a liberal court judge, and they, therefore, want the next president, which they hope will be Republican, to appoint a judge. Most likely, they will delay the process of confirming the judge Obama will recommend. They want to make Obama into an early "lame duck" without any influence.

In my opinion, the Supreme

Court Justice should be appointed by the current President, because Obama will be in office until Jan. 20, 2017. That is close to another year, in which America's Supreme Court should be have all seats full. Politicians should not make decisions that will benefit, but for the good of the country. Every government needs a fully established judicial branch with all the necessary Court Judges in office.

# Saying goodbye to my home away from home

**Ashton Priest** 

Viewpoints Editor

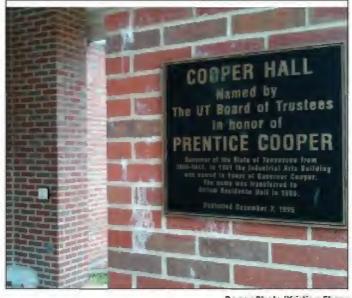
As I received the applications for fall housing, I already had the perfect idea of the next year. I would keep my private room, I would continue to chill in the suite area with my suitemates and friends and I would ultimately be back at my second home.

That all changed when I got to the retain-your-room section: "This option is NOT available for Cooper Hall." Uh, what?

This is when I found out that Cooper Hall would be transformed into a student learning community. People from the same major/college would be living in one suite under the the eyes of a "dorm mother" to whom the student must report to weekly about grades, classes etc. This starts next semester, despite a previous plan to implement it five years from now.

On behalf of almost all of the current residents, I think we all agree that we are furious.

Since only some majors are offered, the majority of us are literally being kicked out of Cooper Hall after this semester. This leaves us with upgrading to University Villages for an extra \$3,000 a semester, which is an automatic no, or going back to the closed-in Browning/Ellington Halls. A number of students have actually moved out already to the University Courts or even off-



Pacer Photo/Kristina Shaw

campus

While this may be beneficial for i.e. nursing and agriculture majors, the rest of us are struggling to find new homes or at least residences. This will ultimately end with Cooper Hall becoming a freshman dorm like similar ones at UT Knoxville. But did we really have to be kicked out of, to most of us, our only home?

I knew that, after a while, I would have to struggle to find somewhere else to live and start a complete independent life. However, I wasn't expecting it to happen so soon against our wills. I didn't expect to stress to find another place to live and worry about finances to live in another place. I didn't expect to grow up

so soon in my college career.

I'll miss the nights that I spent watching movies with my suite-mates in the suite area. I'll miss hanging out in the center "atrium" on a fall or spring night when I'm stressed out. I'll even miss the nightly programs that our wonderful R.A.s put together, no matter how corny they are.

It's been fun, Cooper Hall. I might be against what's happening to you, but you'll forever hold a place in my heart, as well as others, as being my forever college home. I hope that future residents make fond memories of thier adventures here as the newest generation of Cooper Raccoons.

### Everybody likes an underdog

Kristina Shaw

Assistant A&E Editor

The story of the underdog is one that has unfolded throughout history and serves as a reminder of accomplishments that can come out of adversity, but what is it exactly about the dark horse that captures devotion?

Take, for example, the Carolina Panthers. Despite their loss to the Denver Broncos in the Super Bowl, no one expected that team to have such a successful season, and they grew a large fan base because of it.

John Scott, forward for the American Hockey League's St. John's IceCaps, is another underdog that emerged victorious.

Fan-nominated to be in the NHL All Star game in what began as a cruel joke, the 8 year veteran who has 11 career points, scored two goals as captain for his team and was voted MVP.

Also, in a time of racial tension, Texas Western University basketball coach, Don Haskins, formed the first all-African American starting line to win the 1966 NCAA national championship.

Yet this tendency to support those that are against the odds does not exist exclusively in sports. Author J.K. Rowling went from being a single mother living with government aid, to a successful writer with a net worth of \$1 billion, according to Sunday Times' UK Rich List.

Think of Susan B. Anthony fighting for women's suffrage or Mahatama Gandi's nonviolent movement for India's independence. Recall Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership and tireless devotion in the Civil Rights Movement.

Consider the history of our own country. We dared to rebel against Great Britain in the American Revolution after growing tired of their unfair laws. Regardless of the looming consequences and chance of defeat, men stood up for what they believed in and our nation was born.

Perhaps these events and individuals give us hope. Most of us go through life feeling some sort of oppression, whether it be from the pressures of daily life to that challenge that we just cannot see making it through to the other side. To see another human who is otherwise weak in nature defeat the looming Goliath makes us optimistic of our own struggles or short comings. Simply put, how can we not root for the underdog?

### News

### Oil price decrease fails to lower goods prices

Hidaja Trautmann

Staff Writer

Although oil prices are falling nationwide, in many cases the price of goods is remaining the same.

In 2015, oil prices fell by as much as 35%, to a low price of 375 per barrel. The results were clearly noticed by way of low gas prices. When gas prices sink, the economy as a whole is affected, as the cost of freighting goods naturally sinks as well.

It should be expected that following these reduced freight and shipping costs, the goods available in stores nationwide will also sink. However, looking at prices of goods in any store, it can be seen that the prices have not decreased noticeably, in spite of this oil slide.

Dr. Glenna Sumner, associate professor of economics at UTM, offered an explanation for this atypical development.

The basic problem we are having is the fact that we no longer have much competition," said Dr. Sumner. "Capitalism

requires competition."

The economy has shifted, and much of the market is held by only a handful of major corporations. These corporations display a sort of oligopoly, created through the social and economic changes. What used to be the tasks of numerous small businesses during the last decades is now in the hands of relatively few.

Dr. Sumner describes this problem by saying that the U.S. s "in an era of crony capitalism," where mega corporations are in league with government politicians in a mutual feeding process."

Oligopolies, the domination of the market by a relatively small group, create a mutual system in which price changes are usually avoided for their negative consequences. Excessive price changes can result in a price war, leading to a lack of profit on all

As an example, applying this concept to an industry such as the telephone service industry shows the immediate effects. In this example, all service



Photo Credit/Associated Press

providers begin offering their services at an average of \$40 per month. One provider reduces their price by 50 percent, causing them to receive more business than their competitors. The other providers, knowing that they will lose customers unless they also cut their prices, respond in kind, cutting their prices down to match the first corporation's \$20/month rate. As a result, all providers have

lowered their potential profits by half. While this would benefit the customers, it also harms the providers. Companies therefore attempt to avoid price wars as much as possible.

Using this example, it should become clear why the prices of goods stay the same, even though oil prices are sinking. In order to get the major corporations back to a point where they can benefit the customers, their self-

interest has to be controlled by competitive forces. Dr. Sumner calls this competition "the invisible backhand." The invisible backhand, based on Adam Smith's ideas of capitalism, is what our economy needs to boom again, says Dr. Summer.

In the long run, Dr. Sumner said that the prices for goods should eventually fall in line with oil prices.

### Haslam takes issue with lawmakers on refugee lawsuit



Photo Credit/Associated Press

#### **Associated Press**

Gov. Bill Haslam on Tuesday took issue with a move by fellow Republicans in the Legislature to order the state attorney to sue the federal government over the refugee resettlement program in Tennessee.

The governor told reporters that refugee resettlement was a major topic of discussion during a National Governors Association meeting Washington over the weekend, and that he came away with the understanding that the program doesn't present a threat to Tennesseans.

"There are people who are coming into our country illegally who want to do this country harm, but I don't think that's the process they're coming in under," Haslam said, noting that the resettlement process can take between 18 months and three years.

The resolution overwhelmingly

passed the Senate on Monday and is sponsored by Speaker Ron Ramsey, R-Blountville, and Senate Republican leader Mark Norris of Collierville.

While the measure "directs" a legal challenge to be mounted, Norris said that the resolution provides for hiring an outside attorney if the Attorney General Herbert Slater were to decline to file the lawsuit.

Haslam nevertheless raised concerns about "one branch of government ordering the attorney general what to do." He was also worried about the precedent that would be set by hiring an outside attorney to represent the state.

"I'm not sure that's a really good trend for us," Haslam said. Fears about resettlement in Tennessee were heightened after last year's terrorist attacks in Paris.

Republican Sen. Mark Green of Clarksville said security concerns caused him to support

the resolution.

"Our federal government has failed to protect us," Green said during Monday's debate on the Senate floor. In certain groups of those refugees, people who want to do harm to us are infiltrating this program."

Opponents of the resolution, including dozens of protesters who came to the Capitol, argued that it would make Tennessee appear unwelcoming to immigrants.

Norris rejected those arguments. "What could be more

welcoming than a state that is willing to stand upon its rights, under the state and federal constitutions, to protect the people within its borders?" he said. "What I, ask you, could possibly be more welcoming to that?"

The resolution has been sent to the House. The governor does not have the power to veto resolutions.

### Student Government Association collecting ideas for possible revenue

Staff Reports

Ideas have been flowing for how UTM should spend extra revenue that would be generated by the "15/4" tuition model if it is approved by the university and the UT Board of Trustees.

At SGA's recent Open Forum, the proposed tuition model and the university's accreditation status, along with plans for renovation of the UC, were discussed with the nearly 100 people who attended.

The final activity at the forum involved a brainstorming session on how to spend the possible extra funds.

Groups of students at each table in the UC Ballroom. where the forum was held last week, discussed a list of 12 ideas provided by SGA, ranked those ideas in importance, and then added ideas for later discussion. After the small-group session, SGA moderated a full-group discussion of new ideas from students.

The original ideas from SGA

- Certify full-time academic advisers
- Certify all tutors Certify career services
- professionals Provide graduate school

test preparation

- Enhance graduate school advising
- Enhance transfer student orientation and services Improve
- software Implement living-learning
- communities Improve course availability
- Increase internship opportunities

Increase

leadership development opportunities Develop a Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (the model cited was from the University of Illinois at Champaign-

ldeas offered by students after the small-group sessions included:

- Hire more faculty members Increase funding supplemental instructors so
- that more may be hired Offer summer classes at lower tuition rates
- Provide financial education services, such as helping students learn how to budget better
- Provide more scholarships students who performing well academically

SGA officials said they were

pleased with the turnout for the forum and they want to continue to gather ideas, comments and concerns from the student body.

To respond to the ideas listed above, or to offer other ideas, email SGA President Rachael Wolters at sga1@utm.edu; SGA Vice President Joshua Diltz at sga2@utm.edu; SGA Secretary General Elizabeth Packard at sga3@utm.edu; or SGA Chief of Staff Ryan Leatherbarrow at ryacleat@ut.utm.edu.

SGA Senate meetings are held at 9 p.m. Thursdays in the UC Legislative Chambers.

### News



### Statewide News Briefs

**Associated Press** 

#### Public housing residents could be evicted if they don't work

Public housing residents living in Chattanooga's newest sites could face eviction if they don't keep their work agreement.

The Chattanooga Times Free Press reports that the Chattanooga Housing Authority voted unanimously Monday to evict residents in the Upward Mobility program if they don't work, attend school or volunteer at least 30 hours a week. The policy takes effect March 1.

The program's residents have 90 days to enroll in school or job training, or volunteer or get a job before facing eviction. Those 62 and older are exempt from the work requirement.

CHA Executive Director Betsy McCright says most of the program's nearly 150 families comply.

Families who agree to the requirement are provided a residence in the agency's most modern public housing sites, including Greenwood Terrace and Fairmount Apartments.

#### Two Fort Campbell soldiers accused of impersonating police

Two Fort Campbell soldiers have been arrested after Clarksville police say they were impersonating police officers.

The Clarksville Police Department says in a Facebook post that Brett Jewell and William Jones were arrested Tuesday on three counts each of criminal impersonation. Both men are Fort Campbell soldiers.

Media outlets report that Clarksville police had received several reports of drivers being pulled over by police impostors with flashing lights, badges and a dispatch radio.

Police say they had identified Jewell and Jones as suspects. A detective brought them in Tuesday for interviews, during which both men confessed.

#### Country music producer accused of domestic violence

Country music producer Tony Brown has been arrested and charged with domestic assault after being accused of beating up a female family member.

The Tennessean reports that the 69-year-old was booked in to the Metro Nashville Jail on Tuesday on a charge of domestic bodily injury

An arrest warrant says the woman told police that she was showing Brown pictures for ideas for an upcoming photo shoot, and he told her they were "slutty poses" and slapped her. The warrant says Brown then grabbed her by the face, pushed her to the floor and climbed on top of her and pulled her hair before dragging her down a hallway.

Online court records do not list an attorney for Brown. He is scheduled to go to court on Feb. 29.

### Bill to end newspaper notice requirement fails in state Senate

A proposal to allow legal notices to be published online instead of in printed newspapers has failed in a Senate committee.

The measure sponsored by Republican Sen. Todd Gardenhire of Chattanooga did not receive a motion in the State and Local Government Committee on Tuesday.

Gardenbire said the measure was brought to him by city and county mayors. It would have given the electronic notice the same legal effect as one published in a newspaper.

Open government groups and newspapers have opposed the proposed change in the past over concerns that the notices would be harder to find and because not everyone has access to the Internet Representing The
Pacer, from left: first
row, Chance Farmer,
Ashton Priest, Joey
Plunk; second row,
Laura Crossett, Lyndsey
Hayslett, Barriana Woods,
Jared Peckenpaugh,
Kristina Shaw, Justin
Glover.





Representing WUTM and UTM-TV, from left: first row, Holly Seng, Tori Seng, Sydney LaFreniere, Julia Ewoldt; second row, Kayla Harmon, Ashleigh Burton, Ashley Shores, Chuck Hammer. | Photo Credit/Nathan Morgan, University Relations

### Student media receive honors at Southeast Journalism Conference

Sydney LaFreniere

Guest Writer

UTM's student newspaper, The Pacer, and radio station, WUTM 90.3 FM "The Hawk," both received multiple awards at the Southeast Journalism Conference (SEJC) convention held at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, last weekend.

Together, they also achieved their best competition finish, ranking third in On-Site Championship Team.

"I am, as always, immensely proud of our students," said Tomi Parrish, Communications instructor and coordinator of the Office of Student Publications. "They work for us because they believe in the free flow of information, and they want the best experience possible before entering the work force. They don't do it to win awards, so these achievements are really sweet."

Entries were selected from material that had been published or aired during the previous year. Categories varied from individual awards to newspaper and station awards. UTM competed with more than 20 schools in each contest.

"I am extremely proud of the students with all of the work that they've done at the station and with all of the entries at SEJC," said Dr. Richard Robinson, an associate professor of Communications and the faculty adviser for WUTM. "We did incredibly well, swept both station categories, achieved a number of individual awards, as well as achieving awards in the on-site competitions. I am extremely proud and pleased, and the students did great."

Austin Peay also held on-site competitions in 15 media areas during the conference. These competitions required students to attend events around campus, shoot and edit video, or write and record stories.

### **Best in the South Rankings**

Best News-Editorial Artist/Illustrator – Joey Plunk, 3rd
Best Magazine Page Layout Designer – Jared Peckenpaugh, 6th (tie)
Best College Newspaper – *The Pacer*, 9th
Best Television Hard News Reporter – Ashleigh Burton, 4th (tie)
Best College Television Station – UTM-TV, 3rd
Best Radio Journalist – Tori Seng, 3rd
Best Radio News Feature Reporter – Natalic King, 3rd
Best Radio Hard News Reporter – Sydney LaFreniere, 1st
Best College Radio Station – WUTM, 1st

### **SEJC On-Site Competition Rankings**

Arts & Entertainment Writing - Chance Farmer, 2nd (tie)
Opinion-Editorial Writing - Ashton Priest, 2nd
Public Relations team - Lyndsey Hayslett, Barriana Woods, Laura
Crossett, 2nd
Current Events - Chuck Hammer, 2nd
Anchoring - Tori Seng, 3rd (tie)
Radio News Reporting - Ashleigh Burton, 1st
Championship Team - 3rd

### **Features**

### **UTM** teacher continues family's legacy

Rachel Moore

Staff Writer

Henrietta Giles is living proof that the size of your hometown will never determine what you are capable of becoming.

Stanton, Tennessee, home to 423 people as of July 1, 2015, so it comes as a huge surprise that the one-stoplight town brought forth the amazing talent and strength that Giles'

voice projects regularly.

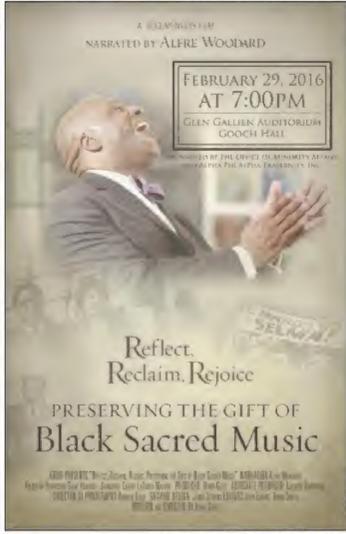
The youngest of eight kids, Giles came from a fearless father who believed that, "No one should have less or be looked at differently just because of the color of their skin."

Her mother and father were both passionate and active proponents of the Civil Rights Movement. Giles and her sisters were even some of the first black students to help integrate schools in Haywood county. Giles' work experience spans a range of mediums including television and film production, radio production, ghost writing for a biography and now teaching at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Giles received an Emmy award for her work on the documentary "Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice: Preserving the Gift of Black Sacred Music," which is not the first and will likely not be the last, documentary to have Giles' creative touch to it.

After growing up in the segregated south, Giles raised his daughters to understand the importance of having the right to vote because every day that he went to work to help African Americans register to vote was another day that his family and his life was endangered.

"He worked tirelessly, for many years," said Giles of her father and his contributions to voting in Tennessee. The Giles family even opened their home to a man named Mr. Thomas, who was part of a Quaker organization that was also dedicated to registering blacks to vote. "Imagine the '60s... a white man living with a black family and the attention that drew.

Their cause was noble, but it cannot change the ways of the time period. "There were times when our family was threatened. I remember as a child, my older up out of bed because someone had called and said there was a went outside and played." bomb under our house." Giles lost her father at the young first media related job in



Poster courtesy / United Methodist Church

age of 10 years old, but she will never forget the important role he played for the Civil Rights Movement and still wonders at his exact location in the crowd when she watches film of the March on Washington, which he marched in during his lifetime.

When she looks back on her childhood, Giles recalls being right in the thick of changes for the school in her county. "My sisters were the first to go, and it was a hellish experience for them," Giles even recalls growing up and realizing how cruel people really were on the school bus. She was separated from other black students in her class and they were not allowed to play together. A few years ago, Giles discovered that one of her life long best friends had actually been in school with her as a young child, and they did not even realize it because they were never able to speak. "I have no memory of even going out on the playground with the brothers and sisters scooping me other white kids. The black kids stayed inside, and the white kids

Giles started out with her

Nashville, working for Channel 5. Her success only grew from that point as she moved on to work for a country music radio station in Charlotte, North Carolina. Giles did not stay away from Rocky Top long; she came back to Nashville to work for a production house for various kinds of entertainment television.

"I have always had a love for television and story telling.... I think that's what draws me to producing documentaries." She co-produced, "Waiting in the Wings: African Americans in Country Music," which is a documentary that looks at the history and instruments of country music and how African Americans relate to that music

Giles received an Emmy award for the documentary, "Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice: Preserving the Art of Black Sacred Music," which she wrote, directed and produced for the United Methodist Church. This short documentary takes a deep look into the importance of black sacred music as a means of praise in the United Methodist Church and offers a small taste



poses with the Emmy she won for her documentary, "Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice: Preserving the Gift of Black Sacred Music." Giles wrote, directed and produced the documentary, which will be shown at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 29, in Gallien Auditorium in Gooch Hall. | Photo Courtesy / Henrietta Giles

of the power and spirit behind such passionate displays of faith through music.

Giles was the ghost writer of the Rev. Joseph Lowery, a contemporary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Lowery, along with King, Ralph David Abernathy and others founded Southern Christian Conference. Lowery gave the benediction at President Obama's first inauguration and received a medal of freedom from the president in 2009. Giles helped him with work on his biography, "Singing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land," which was a collection of sermons and presentations that he had given over the years.

Giles has connections to the Civil Rights Movement throughout both her personal and professional life, but she comes from an entire family of educators. After spending a large portion of her life

working in media, she now has the opportunity to share those connections and her unique voice with young people while she teaches communications classes at UTM. Giles would say to students who are trying to stand up for what they believe in, "Search for the truth."

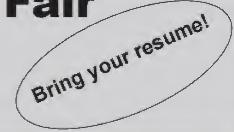
You get a feeling in your gut when something is wrong. Be attuned to yourself and your feelings." Giles believes that a university setting is an opportune time for young people to take in the cultures and values of individuals who are different from what they typically believe. "I hope that when students see me as an instructor...their eyes will be opened."

For Henrietta Giles, Black History Month is about truth and "filling in the gaps that tend to be gaping in our collective history." To view Giles' documentaries, henrigilesmedia.com and click on the videos tab.

### Academic Major & Career Fair

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 3, 2016 Boling University Center Ballroom

For more information, contact Mary Wiggins at 731-881-7740 or at munger@utm.edu



### **Features**

### Continuing a legacy through unity

Rachel Moore

Staff Writer

The root of the word "activist" is "act," and Kaché Brooks is certainly one to not only act, but also encourage the actions and empowered unity of others.

The 16th Annual Civil Rights Conference (ACRC) was this past week at the University of Tennessee at Martin and students everywhere felt the impact. Regardless of if these young people were involved in the planning, were just listening to a lecture, or were a performer in one of the events everyone could tell the impact and importance of having the conference on campus.

Brooks is a senior psychology from Memphis, major Tennessee. She is the president of the Black Student Association on campus, the Vice President of her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, a member of the Registered Student Organization Advisory Board, and she is on the planning committee for the Annual Civil Rights Conference. Brooks is the youngest of six children and places an importance on tight close-knit communities, which is why she sought out UTM as her college home.

Brooks' father was born in the 1940s and being young during the Civil Rights Movement gave him opportunities to stand up for his beliefs. He then helped instill those values in his children by recounting stories of his time in marches during Martin Luther King Jr.'s lifetime. An avid reader, L.B. Brooks, constantly told



Kaché Brooks, president of the Black Student Association, speaks at UTM's 16th annual Civil Rights Conference. | Photo Credit/Rachel Moore

his daughters about books they should be reading and opened their eyes to the struggles that he faced while living in the segregated south. Brooks says her father's testimony helped open her eyes to the importance of not letting things grow stagnant, "Sometimes people think that they have to be on a certain platform to say or do things for Civil Rights... that's not true. You can always start out in your community, campus, or with friends to correct people on things that aren't right."

Six years older than Kaché, Kayla Brooks graduated from Vanderbilt University and always made sure to tell her little sister about the events their Black Student Association had going on. "She is always a very vocal person about what she thought was right and what wasn't. Being around her really pushed me and motivated me to do the same things and not remain silent about what I think is right."

Brooks feels that the campus or surrounding community could be hosting an annual march along with the conference and breakfast, just to allow people to have their voice heard. There was a forum during the ACRC this week that allowed students to speak about racial tensions they have felt whether on campus or not and any other times they may have felt oppressed. This seminar, "To Be Black and Alive" allowed people

to understand that, "just because [you] haven't experienced racism, doesn't mean it doesn't exist."

The Black Lives Matter movement means a lot of different things to the black community as well as the world. In Brooks' eyes the movement is about embracing yourself, "I might not look like everybody else or the majority. I'm black and that's okay, there's nothing wrong with that."

The Black Lives Matter movement has shed light on injustices and the fact that our nation has made great strides and there is still progress left to

"It's a voice for black people. It's not okay for our lives to be taken. Just because we are black and they may fear us, it doesn't give them a right to take our lives," says Brooks on the issue of police brutality.

Brooks has always placed an importance on people coming together and working as a strong unified body. She chose UTM because of the tight-knit community, and the organizations that she has worked to grow have helped her thrive as a leader and an individual. Because Brooks is in leadership positions it's important that her values shine through her work.

"In my organizations, I'm not afraid to stand up for what I believe in, even if others don't agree with me," Brooks said.

Black history month is about continuing the legacy to Brooks.

"It's about giving homage and recognizing the pioneers of black history and American history. It's also about rededicating ourselves to the movement. It's making a charge to continue the legacy and movement that those before us have lived," Brooks says about where society should stand today in regards to Black History month.

She has done her part to act as a leader and spokesperson for her beliefs. L.B. raised his children to never let their voices be silenced; his youngest daughter's is sure to be strong and proud as long as she has an audience. "Be involved. The root word of activist is act so it's very important to stand up for your beliefs and be knowledgeable about what's going on in your community."

### 'Black history gives me the opportunity to be who I want to be'

Rachel Moore

Staff Writer

Creating change through peaceful development and continued harmony has come to be a creed for Corri Oliver and her reflection of black history as an ongoing pursuit.

Memphis, Tennessee, once claimed Corri Oliver as theirs, then Knoxville became her home, and now the small town of Martin has the opportunity to allow Oliver to step into their community and create changes that are sure to empower others. Oliver graduated from White Station High School in 2014, in the top 25 percent of her class, and her successes definitely exceed the classroom.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Being raised in a single parent household with siblings, Oliver knew that her odds were stacked against her. She never let that adversity bog her down. Today, Oliver proudly represents hard



Corri Oliver speaks at UTM's 16th annual Civil Rights Conference, stressing the importance of inclusion of all people. [Photo Credit/Rachel Moore

work by being "Miss Black and Gold" for the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, she is a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi professional business fraternity, the president of the Residence Hall Association, is a resident assistant for Ellington Hall at UTM, and is on the planning committee for the annual Civil Rights Conference hosted by UTM. She was one of two keynote speakers for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Breakfast, where her words about passion, dedication, and discipline moved the audience to a standing ovation.

In Oliver's explanation of the annual Civil Rights Conference, which occurred in the third week of February, she stresses the importance of hosting events that are inclusive to all people. Not only will there be speakers, but also showcases throughout fine arts, a day at Discovery Park, and more, so people can find a place to get involved.

"I think it's important for people everywhere to come together and just have open dialogue about all types of problems out there, because Civil Rights is about every citizen here, and in the United States, and in the world; because it's about being civil with one another," says Oliver of the importance of student involvement in the conference.

This woman's words align with Dr. King's values in more ways than she knows. Dr. King said, "People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other," and it is true even for students on college campuses that a fear of differences creates conflict that is unnecessary.

See Oliver, Page 8

### **Features**

### **UTM Women's Center celebrates fifth anniversary**

Kristina Shaw

Assistant A&E Editor

Outside of Grove apartment Dll stands a tall wire chair and table. A sign is on the door and a floral mat beneath it. Five years ago on March 1, this apartment opened to become the home of the University of Tennessee at Martin's Women's Center.

Inside, the one bedroom living space has been transformed into a learning center, designed to educate about women's issues. A bulletin board is filled with pamphlets that contain information about sexual assault, battered women, dating violence and more. A poster paying tribute to famous Tennessee women like Wilma Rudolph, Ida B. Wells and Pat Summit hangs on the wall. In the back room, there is a crowded desk, small conference table and two tall bookshelves playing host to a wide variety of books from Jane Austen classics to "The Idiot's Guide to Gardening."

Though it appears small, the Women's Center has gained the support of students, faculty and staff and members of the community.

"I think that we need to educate our women and men not just on what have been traditional roles, but what opportunities are out there for future roles," said Dr. Teresa Collard, UTM's Associate Professor of Communications. "We need to know our past but we need to see a bright future where everyone has equal opportunity,"

In 2010, Collard, the director, attended a Women in Higher Education conference and listened to speakers who had started women's centers. She immediately decided that this would be her project. As the coordinator of the women's studies minor for 22 years, Collard wanted to use the center to support the minor.

After contacting some of the women



Dr. Teresa Collard, the director of UTM's Women's Center. Collard founded the center on March 1, 2011. | Photo Credit / University Relations

who spoke at the event, author, columnist and motivational speaker Lisa Smartt, helped Collard to create a plan to present to former Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes, along with Dr. E. Jerald Ogg Jr., provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

The two immediately agreed to the initiative.

"I was excited," said Ogg. "Dr. Collard was passionate, committed enough to invest her own time and exceptionally frugal in her request for funding."

The next step was to find a location for the center. At the time, the Fine Arts Building was undergoing construction and there were no available spaces on campus. It was decided that the group would rent out an apartment in Grove.

The first annual Women's Studies Symposium was the next hurdle. The daylong event takes place during March



The Grove apartment office of the Women's Center. The center organizes events such as the Women's Studies Symposium. I Photo Credit/Kristina Shaw

as a tribute to women's history month and includes a keynote speaker, panel sessions, and other activities.

The largest event of the year, Collard remembered wondering how she would get 100 students to attend. Approximately 158 students came and the events were packed. At the end of the "Equalitea," she remembered the chaos of baking scones, getting clotted cream together, serving the tea, making sandwiches and getting the presenters up.

In addition to the symposium, the center is actively involved with the American Association of University Women, and also has a monthly speaker series.

In November 2015, one speech discussed female genital mutilation.

An estimated 78 participants attended to hear the address given by a Nigerian student and filled room 336 in Gooch Hall.

The event further fueled fundraising efforts for the Desert Flower Project to fight female genital mutilation.

Over time, Collard has formed a large board of directors that support Women's Center initiatives and assists with the symposium, along with assistant director Dr. Lisa LeBleu. The board meets once a year and is made up of students including presidents of Women in Communications and Women's Student Association, faculty and staff, and community members.

Additionally, Collard has an intern. Junior public relations major and women's studies minor Kathryn Fellman works primarily with updating social media. At her job, she enjoys researching for posts about women in history.

"I think working at the Women's Center has helped broaden my views about what's available to me and what my rights are," said Fellman.

However, men have taken an active role in the organization as well. For example, UTM police officer Charlie Jahr has served as a member of the board and teaches self defense classes at the symposium. He described his students as open minded and enthusiastic.

Throughout the years, Collard has only had one negative remark. When asked where the men's center would be, the director replied that there was already one - the university.

Though not in the works, Collard would one day like to move out of Grove. She would also like to raise enough money to endow the scholarships for volunteers.

The center is open Monday through Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=UTM%20Women%27s%20 Center.

#### Oliver

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Oliver is a sophomore accounting major. She considers her ability to go to school and work for an education to be a gift from past Civil Rights activists and leaders. However, she knows the overall goal has not been met and that there is still work to be done.

Oliver believes that continuing the cycle of creating peace will also allow people after her to continue to do the same. She believes in a need for constant collective action to prevent society from relegating back to the way things were in the past.

There is no discount, in her mind, on the importance for further education of black history and the cultural backgrounds of other races in schools. She feels that acceptance and peaceful compromise would be made easier if the courses offered about different cultures were a more common requirement. "It's not just a matter of us being able to go to school with each other, it's a matter of us going to school with each other peacefully..... and constantly mesh together, and continue to take the world by storm."

Oliver urges her peers to remember that a person, regardless of race or stance, does not have to protest to make a difference.

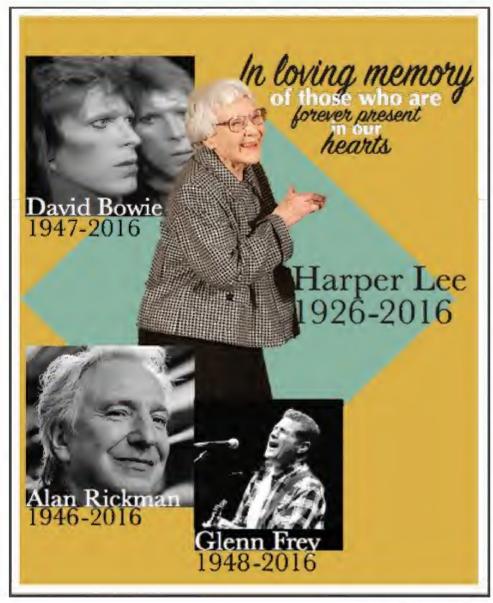
"You can play a vital role in Black Lives Matter and the Civil Rights movements by doing other things. You don't have to march... protest... picket... you can do it by developing yourself," she continues that this development and the unique view that each person has is what makes all positions important. Oliver also encourages people to remember that their appreciation and respect for Civil Rights movements should not be limited to one month.

"Black history month is one piece of a whole puzzle," says Oliver on the need for constant appreciation of all cultures. If the attention stops being on the issues, progress ceases. "To go from having your life in the hands of a white man to being the commander and chief of the United States, that is a complete 360 turn," says Oliver of black history month.

This goes to show that black history is not, and never will be, limited to the marches, sit-ins and protests. Black history progresses through time and shows that the end only arrives when people stop pushing boundaries.



# **Arts & Entertainment**



Graphic Credit/ Corianna Morris

# Harper Lee passes; latest celebrity loss

Chelsea Monroe

Staff Writer

Harper Lee, the author of the 1960 novel To Kill a Mockingbird died in her sleep on Friday at her assisted living facility in Monroeville, AL.

Lee's death came as a surprise to friends and family because she was considered in good health for being 89.

In 1960, Lee released her first novel To Kill a Mockingbird, which was an immediate bestseller, selling 40 million copies world wide. It received the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1961. In 1999, it was voted "Best Novel of the Century" in a poll by the Library Journal.

Lee's most recent published work, Go Set 2 Watchman, was discovered one year ago in February 2015 in a safety deposit box. This novel was actually the first draft of her famous work To Kill a Mockingbird. In June 2015, the novel hit the shelves and broke pre-sale record. It is now on track to becoming one of the fastest-selling literary works in history.

Harper Lee's passing has been accompanied by the passing of many other notable public figures so far this year. David Bowie, British singer/songwriter and actor, died in January 2016. His iconic music topped the charts for five decades, but he is most remembered for his innovation in the 1970s. Bowie left family and friends at age 69 after battling cancer.

January also brought along the loss of Alan Rickman, an actor and director most commonly known these days as Severus Snape of the Harry Potter series. Rickman was nominated for many awards throughout his career and won several including three in 2011 from the Harry Potter films. He is said to be one of the best-loved and most warmly admired British actors of the past 30 years according to The Guardian. He died surrounded by friends and family after a suffering from cancer.

Eagles co-founder Glenn Frey also left us in January 2016. Frey died at 67 after fighting a tough battle, but in the end lost his fight to rheumatoid arthritis, acute ulcerative colitis and pneumonia according to his publicist. His work in the 1970s also set standards for future rock bands and will be greatly remembered for his time on

### Shakespearean parody to hit the stage

Kristina Shaw

A&E Assistant Editor

The Department of Visual and Theater Arts will present, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged, Revised", starting today through March 3.

starting today through March 3.
Written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield, the production is a three man parody that follows friends as they act out and include all of Shakespeare's 37 plays.

After a good response from their performance last semester of "As You Like It," the department decided to continue with more of the playwright's work.

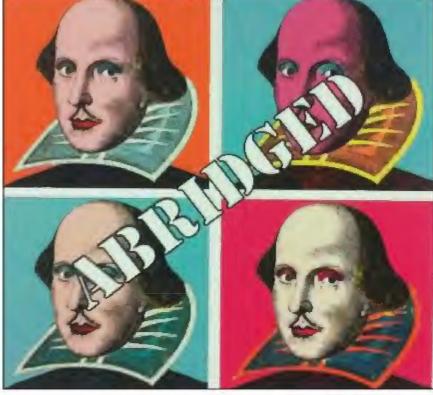
"We thought that this would be a fun way to make all of his plays accessible to everyone because everybody kind of gets a headache when we start thinking about Shakespeare," said director and Visual and Theatre Arts associate professor Kevin Shell.

Preparation for the play began in December 2015, and it stars students Mark Connell, Dillon Davis and graduate Cody Jarman.

Characters are named after the actors for a more personal approach.

Connell, senior theatre major, called his character the "PR guy of the group" and largely introduces the scenes and supervises the other two characters.

Davis embodies a child-like character that he said he modeled after "Parks and Recreation character", Andy Dwyer. He also



Flier Courtesy / Vanguard Theatre

plays many of the female roles.

Jarman graduated in December 2015 with a Bachelor of Fine Art in Theatre Arts and a Bachelor of Arts in English. He works at the UTM writing center and Discovery Park and embodies a Shakespearean scholar.

"My role is the chance to make fun of all the English teachers that have shoved Shakespeare down your throat throughout your lifetime," said Jarman.

However, the three man show has presented its challenges.

"It's a heavy role, to be honest," said Connell. "[It's] heavier than any role I've had previously. There's a lot of work that goes into it but I feel like the work that I've done has amounted to what's going to a spectacular performance as well."

Behind the scenes, student Asa Woodward handles the props and costume changes for Davis.

"It being one person keeping up with all of that and changing him is different because in the last play I had three other people backstage. There wasn't a lot of props or costume changes, so with this one I don't have a lot of think."

On the other side of the stage, student Eli McCaig manages the props and costume changes for Mark.

Additionally, understudies, students Andrew Jones and Lymonte' Thomas along with graduate Casey Williams, will perform excerpts of the play in a 30 minute lunchbox theater show starting every Wednesday, from March 23 to April 13 in the Vanguard Little Theatre. These performances will start at noon and lunch will be provided.

"This is my first time ever experiencing it [the play]. When Kevin gave me the script and I read it, I was going home for the weekend. I was in the car and I was cracking up," said freshman Thomas. "I thought it was the most hilarious thing I've ever read."

All in all, the play will be humorous with plenty of audience interaction.

"It's an in your face, fast moving comedy," Shell said. "It covers a lot of ground."

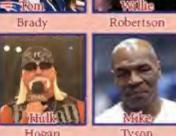
The show will be in the Little Theatre. Curtain time is from 8-10 p.m. every day except Feb. 28, which will be from 3-5 p.m. It runs for an hour and a half and tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Box offices will open two hours before every performance.

# Arts & Entertainment































In light of the upcoming Super Tuesday primary, here is a breakdown of whom some celebrities are casting their presidential vote for. Graphic Credit/ Carianna Morris

### The buzz behind YouTube Red

Jared Peckenpaugh

Sports Editor

Since its launch in February 2005, YouTube has quickly grown into one of the top social media platforms in today's age.

Google The owned company, which allows users to watch and upload videos onto their site, has grown into a \$70 billion company in the last 11 years according to Fortune.com.

Now, YouTube has stepped into the paid subscription game with streaming sites such as Netflix, Hulu and many more.

Last October, Google announced a new service available for it's users called YouTube Red. This new service adds several new features, such as ad free videos. That's right, no more pesky annoying ads popping up in the middle of your videos. Another feature that the original Youtube Red had was the ability to listen to a video's audio while having the screen turned off on mobile devices, which is useful for people who go to

YouTube to listen to music, podcasts or other audio entertainment. Now you can stream your favorite music without wasting your battery life on your mobile device.

But YouTube didn't stop there, now there are newer

One of the biggest additions is the ability to watch videos offline. YouTube Red users can now download their favorite videos and play them back whenever they want, such as on a long car ride, on a flight or while sitting in a waiting room. You can now watch videos without an internet connection or without wasting your data.

YouTube Red also added shows and movies that are specifically available to YouTube Red customers only. The shows and movies include "Scare PewDiePie", a reality horror series that features the most popular YouTuber, PewDiePie, Rooster Teeth's latest film "Lazer Team" and two other movies "Dance Camp" and "A Trip to Unicorn Island."

With all these new features, word for it, try it yourself.

you would figure there has to be some negatives. Well, there are.

YouTube Red is \$12.99 a month, which compared to other monthly-subscription streaming services sounds a little expensive. The new features that are available features are great, but I'm with YouTube Red. not sure if they're really worth \$12.99 a month.

If you are intent on downloading a lot of videos onto your phone, then may I suggest you clear up a little bit of storage on your device. I found out quickly that if you want to store over three hours worth of content, then you're going to need well over one gigabyte of storage. And for someone like me who constantly receives low storage warnings, that could be a problem.

YouTube Red is also not available to anyone living outside the U.S., but according to Google they are fixing that issue right now.

Overall, highly T recommend you at least tryout YouTube Red. YouTube is even offering 2 free 30-day free trial to new users, so don't just take my

### **UTM Music** upcoming events

- 🔷 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, Blankenship Recital Hall Dr. Alan Cross and Ms. Esther Lemus, Guest Vocal Recital and Yoga Workshop; free and open to the public
- → 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, Blankenship Recital Hall Dr. Stephanie Frye Guest Tuba Recital; free and open to the public
- ♦ 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, Soleil Garden Center in Union City – The Sigma Psi chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia will host a benefit concert with performances by The Whippersnappers, the chapter's funk band Scroll Patrol, and 27 B-Stroke 6. Admission is \$10 for students and chapter alumni, and \$15 for the public. All proceeds will go toward the Elwood and Carolyn Doss Fund, which helps advance music in America.
- ♦ 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, Harriet Fulton Theatre - Wind Ensemble Side-by-Side Concert with the Union City High School Symphonic Band; free and open to the public
- ◆ Saturday, March 5, Fine Arts Building Woodwind Day, LCD Concert. Registration is \$5 and begins at 8:30 a.m. Come hear woodwind performances, listen to presentations, try out equipment, and more. For more information, go to www.utm.edu/WoodwindDay.
- ♦ 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, Blankenship Recital Hall CONCERT SERIES: University Trio; free and open to the public.

# **Sports**

# Skyhawk women win regular season OVC championship, defeat Eastern Illinois 91-52

Jared Peckenpaugh

Sports Editor

The Skyhawk women's basketball team clinched their third straight Ohio Valley Conference regular season title Wednesday night in a dominating 91-52 win over Eastern Illinois.

The Skyhawks (20-8, 13-2 OVC) are now the No.1 seed in next week's OVC tournament. That also means the Skyhawks will play next Wednesday at noon in the first round of the OVC tournament against the No.8 seed.

"I can't say enough for the kids and what they have been able to do this year," UTM head coach Kevin McMillan said. "[UTM] figured out how to play and reinvented themselves multiple times. It's a testament to what they have been willing to do with the roles that they've played, then we've had to switch the roles with them and switch them again.

"[I'm] so proud with what they've been able to accomplish. I think they've represented us well and hope that they have more in them. I hope this is the beginning."

The Skyhawks, who have now won four of the last five OVC regular season titles, are now one step away from reclaiming the OVC tournament title, which fell just out of their grasps last

season after winning four-

straight. But first, the Skyhawks

had to get past Eastern Illinois in their final home game of the

The Skyhawks took the early lead of the game and never really looked back for the rest of the contest. The Skyhawks started the first quarter shooting 46 percent overall. The defense



was successful in holding the Panthers to 20 percent shooting in the opening quarter. That along with four EIU turnovers helped the Skyhawks take a 21-10 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Skyhawks continued their hot shooting in the second quarter. A 12-0 run midway through the quarter gave UTM a little more breathing room and a larger lead. The Skyhawks put up 35 points in the second quarter and went to the locker room at halftime with a 56-26 lead.

The Skyhawks never lifted their foot off of the accelerator in the second half. Their 42 points in the paint matched with their hot shooting from 3-point range helped the Skyhawks cruise through the second half.

The Skyhawks would later go on to win 91-52, giving them a perfect record at home against conference opponents.

Jessy Ward was the leading scorer for the Skyhawks with 19 points. She was supported by Shy Copney, who had 17 points and nine rebounds, Haley Howard, who had 16 points and Myah Taylor, who tallied 13 points. Eastern Illinois was led by Phylicia Johnson and Erica Brown, who scored 12 points each.

Eastern Illinois's shooting woes plagued the Panthers throughout a majority of the game. EIU shot 34 percent overall (17-50), 17 percent from 3-point range (3-18) and 83 percent from the free throw line (15-18)

UTM on the other hand, had one of their better shooting performances of the season. The Skyhawks shot 53 percent overall (33-62), 46 percent from 3-point range (11-24) and 82 percent from the free throw line (14-17). The Skyhawks out rebounded EIU 38-27 and scored 31 points off of 18 EIU turnovers. The Panthers scored nine points off of 12 UTM turnovers.

The Skyhawks will play their season finale on Saturday, Feb. 27 against their OVC rivals, Murray State. Tipoff between the Skyhawks and the Racers is scheduled for 5 p.m. at the CFSB Center in Murray, Kentucky.

# UTM battles throughout before falling 11-6 in rain-shortened contest at No. 3 Vandy

**Sports Information** 

The University of Tennessee at Martin baseball team held its own at No. 3 Vanderbilt before falling by an 11-6 margin in five innings to the defending national runner-up at Charles Hawkins Field.

In a game that featured a lengthy rain delay midway through the top of the fifth, the Skyhawks got on the scoreboard first and trailed by just two runs heading into the bottom of the fifth. After torrential rainfall heavily played a factor in backto-back UT Martin errors and three corresponding runs for the Commodores, the game was called.

Josh Hauser went 2-for-2 with a pair of doubles and two RBI's out of No. 9 hole for the Skyhawks (2-3). Austin Taylor also collected two RBI's and scored a run while Matt Hirsch crossed the plate twice for UT Martin

A pair of Skyhawk pitchers combined to allow only six hits to the high-powered Vanderbilt offense. Starter Jake Patzner (0-1) was charged with the loss in his UT Martin debut, allowing eight runs on five hits while striking out four Commodores over 2.2 innings. True freshman Adam Rimmer then took over and pitched well, conceding only one hit with zero earned runs allowed in two frames.

UT Martin came out swinging, taking an early 1-0 advantage in the top of the first. Hirsch was hit by a pitch with one away before Collin Edwards singled up the middle. Taylor then stepped into the batter's box and directed a two-out single up the middle that plated Hirsch.

Vanderbilt took advantage of three walks in the bottom of the first, scoring on a wild pitch and a sacrifice fly to go on top by a 2-1 margin. The Commodores scored three runs while UT Martin committed three errors in the bottom of the second to make the score 5-1.

After Vanderbilt added three runs in the third, the Skyhawks got one run back in the top of the fourth. Mike Murphy drew a one-out walk and two pitches later, Hauser launched a double to deep left field to pull UT Martin within six runs at 8-2.

Rimmer kept Vanderbilt off the scoreboard in the fourth, setting up the Skyhawks' biggest scoring frame of the evening. Following a pitching change, Hirsch and Edwards drew walks to lead off the top of the fifth before Tanner Wessling was hit by a pitch to load the bases with no outs. A 55-minute rain delay then occurred but that did not keep UT Martin from getting back within striking distance. Taylor and Castillo each showed patience at the plate for bases loaded walks to make the score 8-4. Hauser then came up big in the clutch once again, shooting a double into the right field corner that scored Taylor before Murphy was thrown out at the plate to end the inning.

Rimmer retired two of the first three Commodores in the bottom of the fifth. Vanderbilt would place two men on the basepaths before two straight dropped fly balls in the outfield prompted the decision to end the game.

The Skyhawks kick off a season-long 12-game homestand this weekend when they host the Buffalo Bulls out of the Mid-American Conference. First pitch times for the series are set for 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27, followed by a noon start time for the series finale on Sunday, Feb. 28

# NEST

### Men's Baskethall

6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 - Tennessee State Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 - at Murray State CFSB Center, Murray, Kentucky

#### **Ohio Valley Conference Tournament**

Wednesday, Mar. 2 - Saturday, Mar. 5 Nashville Municipal Auditorium Nashville, Tennessee

#### Women's Baskethall

8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24 - Eastern Illinois Elam Center, Martin, Tennessee

5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 - at Murray State CFSB Center, Murray, Kentucky

#### **Ohio Valley Conference Tournament**

Wednesday, Mar. 2 - Saturday, Mar. 5 Nashville Municipal Auditorium Nashville, Tennessee

#### Baseball

2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26 - Buffalo 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 - Buffalo Noon Sunday, Feb. 28 - Buffalo 2 p.m. Wednesday, Mar. 2 - Christian Brothers 2 p.m. Friday, Mar. 4 - IPFW Noon Saturday, Mar. 5 - IPFW 3 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 5 - IPFW Noon Sunday, Mar. 6 - IPFW 6 p.m. Tuesday, Mar. 8 - Evansville

All games will be played at Skyhawk Park

### Softhal

Dr. Bobbie Bailey Memorial Tournament Bailey Park, Kennesaw, Georgia 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 - Western Michigan 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 - Kennesaw State 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 - Western Michigan 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 - Alabama A&M

North Texas State Mean Green Spring Fling Lovelace Stadium, Denton, Texas 10:30 a.m. Friday, Mar. 4 - North Texas State 3:30 a.m. Friday, Mar. 4 - North Texas State 10 a.m. Saturday, Mar. 5 - Houston Baptist 4:30 a.m. Saturday, Mar. 5 - North Texas State 9 a.m. Sunday, Mar. 6 - Houston Baptist



Loyola Intercollegiate Saturday, Feb. 27 - Monday, Feb. 29 Palm Valley Golf Course, Goodyear, Arizona

### Arwestrian

10 a.m. Friday, Mar. 4 - Minnesota-Crookston McWherter Agricultural Complex Martin, Tennessee

#### Women's Tennis

4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 - at Evansville 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 - at Kentucky 3 p.m. Friday, Mar. 4 - at Alabama-Huntsville Noon Sunday, Mar. 6 - at Samford Noon Monday, Mar. 7 - at UAB 10 a.m. Wednesday, Mar. 9 - at Jacksonville State

# **Sports**

# Lessening the confusion around the OVC Tourney

Jared Peckenpaugh

Sports Editor

It's hard to believe that the OVC tournament is next week and, like always, there's confusion surrounding the bracket and how the teams are seeded.

So my job is simple, to answer all the questions that you might have. Here we go.

### Where will the Skyhawk women be seeded?

Thankfully, the women's bracket is much easier to explain because there is no divisions and simpler tiebreaker rules. With the win Wednesday night over EIU, UTM has secured the top seed in the OVC Tournament.

#### What about the men?

Before we talk about the men, we should talk about the divisions and how that affects everything.

### Why does it matter who wins the division?

Easy; back during the 2012-13 season, the OVC added a stipulation that the top team out of the east and west divisions would automatically receive the one and two-seeds in the tournament and a double-bye into the semifinals. The 3-8 seeds would be determined by best conference record, regardless of division. So why is this important? Because if UTM wins the division, they get the two seed and their chances of winning the OVC Tournament are much greater. If they don't win the division, then they fall to either the fifth, sixth, or seventh



seed, depending on how the rest of the conference shakes out. Another added note, a fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth seed has never won the OVC Tournament.

Now we get into the hard stuff, so now I'm going to try to explain it the best way possible.

If the Skyhawks can beat TSU Thursday night and if Murray State loses to EIU, then UTM takes a one game lead into the season finale against Murray State on Saturday. If UTM wins the finale, then they win the division; if they lose, then it goes to a tiebreaker, which belongs to UTM. Why? Because the way that the OVC determines tiebreakers, they go back to the two schools' records against the three-seed, then the four-seed, etc. Both teams split the regular season series against the three-seed EIU, so now it falls on the record of the two squads against the four-seed, Austin Peay. UTM swept the Governors during the regular season while the Racers split their series against APSU

1-1, hence why UTM would control the tiebreaker.

If the Skyhawks bear TSU and Murray State beats EIU, then the two teams are tied atop the standings headed into the finale. If Murray State wins the finale over UTM, then they win the division, but if UTM wins the finale, the Skyhawks win the division.

If UTM loses to TSU and Murray State beats EIU, then Murray State has a one-game lead going into the final game against UTM. If Murray State wins the game, then they win the division, but if UTM wins the game, that forces a tiebreaker, which would belong to Murray State because they swept EIU and UTM split the series against EIU.

If UTM loses to TSU and Murray State loses to EIU, then both teams would be tied atop the division standings heading into the final game, if UTM beats Murray State, then UTM wins the division, but if Murray State wins, the Racers win the division.

Confused yet? Then let's try something simpler.

If UTM wins their next two games, they win the division. If Murray State wins their next two games, they win the division. If Murray State loses Thursday and UTM wins, then UTM wins the division. If Murray State wins Thursday and UTM loses, then Murray State wins the division.

If both teams lose or win against their opponents on Thursday, then the division winner will be decided on Saturday when Murray State and UTM face off.

I hope this clears up whatever confusion there may be.

# Current Standings Men School OVC Overall

| East   |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Belmont<br>Tennessee State<br>Tennessee Tech<br>Morehead State<br>Eastern Kentucky<br>Jacksonville State | 12-3<br>10-4<br>10-4<br>9-5<br>5-9<br>4-10 | 20-9<br>19-8<br>18-9<br>16-11<br>14-15<br>8-21 |
| Wes  | st .                                       |  |
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| UTM                | 9-5  | 17-12 |
|--------------------|------|-------|
| Murray State       | 9-5  | 15-12 |
| Eastern Illinois   | 8-7  | 12-16 |
| Austin Peay        | 5-9  | 12-17 |
| SIU Edwardsville   | 3-12 | 6-21  |
| Southeast Missouri | 2-13 | 5-23  |
|                    |      |       |

| Women              |      |         |
|--------------------|------|---------|
| School             | OVC  | Overall |
| UTM                | 13-2 | 20-8    |
| Belmont            | 12-3 | 20-8    |
| SIU Edwardsville   | 11-4 | 16-12   |
| Eastern Kentucky   | 9-6  | 15-11   |
| Southeast Missouri | 8-7  | 15-13   |
| Tennessee State    | 1-8  | 12-16   |
| Murray State       | 7-8  | 11-15   |
| Austin Peay        | 7-8  | 9-19    |
| Tennessee Tech     | 6-9  | 10-18   |
| Jacksonville State | 5-10 | 10-17   |
| Morehead State     | 3-12 | 9-20    |
| Eastern Illinois   | 2-13 | 3-24    |
|                    |      |         |

### **Quick Hits**

A recap of UTM Baseball and Softbal

#### Baseball

The UTM baseball team began their 2016 season last Friday with a four-game series with Jackson State.

Jackson State took the season opener Friday night, 8-5. The Skyhawks fell behind early in the game 6-0 after two innings, but rallied toward the end of the game.

The Skyhawks scored two runs in the top of the seventh and three runs in the top of the eighth before loading the bases with one out. However, Jackson State would hold on to seal the 8-5 win.

The Skyhawks played two games against Jackson State on Saturday and won both games by a huge margin. In game one, the high-powered UTM offense scored the first 11 runs of the game and continued on to an 18-9 win. The offense was key again in game two, where the Skyhawks defeated the Tigers 12-2.

Unfortunately, the offense could not carry over their hot hitting into game four. After tying the game 2-2 in the top of the fourth, Jackson State scored seven unanswered runs to defeat UTM 9-2.

Despite splitting the four-game series with Jackson State 2-2, one Skyhawk earned OVC Baseball Player of the Week honors on Monday. Outfielder Tanner Wessling earned the accolade after hitting .438 (7-for-16) during the weekend and compiling two doubles, two home runs, nine RBI's and five runs.

#### Softball

The UTM softball team competed in the Chattanooga Spring Classic during the weekend, where they won four of their five games.

The Skyhawks played two games on Friday, two games on Saturday and one game on Sunday.

UTM won game one over IPFW 6-1 after jumping out to an early start. In game two against Dayton, the Flyers were the ones who jumped out to an early lead and managed to hold on til the end, defeating the Skyhawks 5-4.

On Saturday, the Skyhawks won both of their games off of dramatic late inning finishes. In game one, the Skyhawks fell behind 2-0, but rebounded in the top of the seventh with three runs to win 3-2. In game two, the Skyhawks had to go to extra innings, but eventually defeated Chattanooga 6-2 in 10 innings.

The Skyhawks won the fifth and final game of the weekend 3-2 over Detroit Mercy thanks to a walkoff single by Jodie Duncan.

Pitcher Brooke Kennedy earned OVC Co-Pitcher of the Week honors after her two dominant performances during the weekend. Kennedy struck out 14 batters and posted a .82 ERA in the 17 innings she pitched during the weekend.

The Softball team is now 8-2 and will compete in Kennesaw, Georgia, during the weekend in the Dr. Bobbie Bailey Memorial Tournament.